Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended): A sustained/prolonged release pharmaceutical formulation comprising:

~~(a)~~ a water soluble medicament uniformly associated with~~;~~

(b) a polymer ~~mixture~~ construct comprising a first component comprising about 80 weight percent of polyvinyl acetate combined with about 20 weight percent polyvinyl pyrrolidone of the total weight of said first component, combined with a second component comprising a mixture of at least one cellulose ether polymer wherein said first component is present in an amount ranging from about 45 weight percent to about 90 weight percent of the total formulation and wherein said second component comprises from about 2 to about 60 weight percent of the total formulation.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently amended): The formulation according to claim 1 wherein said at least one cellulose ether polymer has ~~is selected from the group consisting of methyl-, ethyl-,~~ hydroxyethyl-, hydroxypropyl-, or hydroxypropyl methyl- substituted~~ion polymers of Methocel A series; hydroxypropyl methyl celluloses of Methocel E, F, J, or K series at various viscosity grades; different viscosity grades of hydroxyl propyl celluloses of Klucel, or Methocel series; [a] low substituted grades of hydroxypropyl celluloses of the LH series; and ethyl celluloses of Ethocel P series, or a mixture of any of the foregoing ethers~~.

4. (Previously presented): The formulation according to claim 1 wherein said water soluble medicament is selected from the group consisting of a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt of hydroxyzine, a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt of metoprolol, niacin, caffeine, theophylline, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of diltiazem, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition

salt of albuterol, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of metformin, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of metronidazole, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of metoclopramide, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of ranitidine, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of captopril, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of nefazodone, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of zolpidem, a pharmaceutical acceptable acid addition salt of sertraline, a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of labetalol, and a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of atenolol.

Claims 5 - 12 (Canceled.)

13. (Currently amended): A process for preparing the sustained/prolonged release pharmaceutical formulation of claim 1, which comprises:

(a) blending a water soluble medicament with a polymer ~~mixture~~ construct comprising a first component, comprising about 80 weight percent of polyvinyl acetate combined with about 20 weight percent of polyvinyl pyrrolidone of the total weight of said first component, combined with a second component, comprising a mixture of at least one cellulose ether polymer wherein said second component comprises from about 2 to about 60 weight percent of the total formulation, to form a uniform mixture; and

(b) tabletting said mixture.

14. (Previously presented): The process as defined in claim 13, wherein said tabletting is conducted under direct compression.

15. (Original): The process as defined in claim 13 wherein said polymer construct and ~~drug~~ medicament are blended by means of wet granulation followed by dry blending.

16. (Original): The process as defined in claim 13 wherein all material are wetted prior to said blending and dried and milled after said blending.

17. (New): The process as defined in claim 13 wherein said at least one cellulose ether polymer has hydroxyethyl-, hydroxypropyl-, or hydroxypropyl methyl- substitution.